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★ APR 24 1936 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture

## Catalogue and Price List

1936

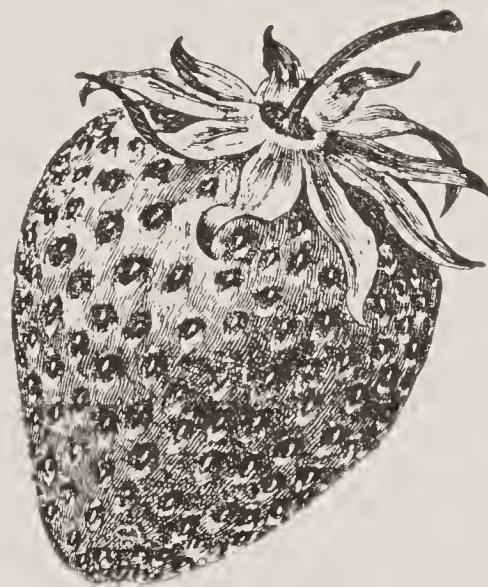
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***RENNIE'S HIGH GRADE***

# Strawberry Plants

New England's Best



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**GEORGE RENNIE**

*Strawberry Specialist*

ANDOVER,

MASSACHUSETTS

Telephone 706

**1908-1936**

Once again I am pleased to greet my many customers, both old and new. I thank them heartily for their patronage, I especially thank those who have recommended my plants to their neighbors and friends, from whom I have received many orders.

For 28 years I have been growing and shipping strawberry plants, starting in 1908 in a small way. The business has increased, from a few thousand plants the first year, until now I am shipping plants to every part of New England and New York State. The land here is ideal for growing plants, a light sandy loam, which causes the plants to go down deep into the soil, making very large roots that are sure to grow. I grow all my own plants and if I should be sold out of any varieties, I say so, never buying from any one to fill your order as some growers do. In digging plants, I dig the whole row, discarding all small plants, also the old or mother plant. My plants are all dug after your order is received, taken to the packing room, cleaned and trimmed, ready to set out in the field. This trimming of the plants makes them very easy to set out and saves you much time and labor, just when you are rushed with your Spring work. In shipping plants by express, I always send a postal notifying you when the plants are shipped. Trusting that I shall continue to receive a share of your patronage and hoping that this will be a successful and prosperous year for you, I am

Yours very truly,

GEORGE RENNIE,

The Strawberry Man  
of Andover, Mass.

## BRIEF CULTURAL DIRECTIONS FOR THE BEGINNER

**Soil.** Almost any land that will grow corn will grow strawberries.

**When to Plant.** The earlier in the Spring the better. As soon as you can prepare the ground in good shape so the Spring rains will give the plants a good start. Plants do best when set before they start to grow very much.

**Preparing the Ground.** Spade or plow under a good coat of barnyard manure, then harrow till it is nice and mellow. If barnyard manure can't be got you can use hen manure or a 4-8-4 fertilizer, 1000 lbs. to the acre spread broadcast, then harrowed in.

**Planting Distance Apart.** We recommend making the rows four feet apart, and setting the plants every 15 to 18 inches in the row. This requires about 7,500 plants per acre.

**Setting the Plants.** A good many strawberry growers use a spade to make the holes to set the plants in. One man to make the holes and another to set the plants. Others use a mason's trowel. Push it straight down in the ground, then push back and forward, this makes a V shaped opening. Hold the plant with the left hand while you fill in the earth with the right, then firm the earth around plant. Be sure to set plants very firm in the ground. More plants die every year from being set too loose in the ground than all other causes combined. Great care should be taken to set the plant at the right depth, with the crown of plant even with surface of the ground.

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**Picking Blossoms from New Set Plants.** The standard or June bearing varieties are not expected to produce a crop the year they are planted. The blossom stems should be pinched from all plants as soon as they appear. This throws the strength into the plant and makes strong healthy plants that will grow a big crop of fruit the following season. Ever-bearing varieties should have all blossoms picked off until July 1st of the first year. This will give you berries during late Summer and Fall the year they are planted.

**Cultivation.** We recommend shallow cultivation as soon as the plants are set. This levels the ground and holds the moisture. Cultivation should be kept up right through the growing season. About the last of November plants should be covered with two inches of meadow hay, rye straw or pine needles, or any covering you have handy provided it is free from weed seeds.

### **Profit and Pleasure in Growing Strawberries**

Strawberries yield quicker returns than any other fruit crop. With no other fruit crop can you set plants or trees one Spring and harvest a full crop of fine fruit the next Spring. "Strawberries bring in early money." They are one of the first crops to be harvested in the Spring. They bring in money when most needed just after a hard Winter. No other crop has brought the farmer as much profit during the past few years as the strawberry crop.

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**If you should order your plants over the phone,  
be sure you get the right number. Andover 706. Ask  
for George Rennie.**

## STANDARD VARIETIES

**Howard 17, (Per.) Early.** Since the Howard was introduced in 1915 it has replaced all other early berries. Its great productiveness, large size, nice color and smooth, even shape puts it in a class by itself. The Howard 17 is the variety that all new varieties are judged by. Growers have made more money with Howard 17 than any other variety.

Here is a list of some of the good points of Howard:

(1) Soil. Howard does well on any kind of soil and in any climate, out-classing all other varieties.

(2) The plants are very productive. No other variety yields more quarts per acre.

(3) The berries are beautiful in appearance having a bright, glossy, red color. A berry that looks good in the box or in the crate. The only fancy berry that is a market berry, all the other fancy berries are poor yielders.

(4) Howard berries are of large size and hold their size well throughout their long bearing season.

A very easy berry to pick as it has no green points. We have one of the best strains of Howard 17 in New England, as we use only the best plants in our breeding beds.

Order your plants early. Don't wait until we are sold out. A small remittance is all that is required

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**If You Order Late in the Season Give a  
Second Choice**

with your order. Send balance when you want plants shipped.

By Parcel Post Prepaid			
25 Plants	100 Plants	200 Plants	300 Plants
50c	\$1.25	\$2.25	\$3.00
	500 Plants	1000 Plants	
	\$4.00	\$7.50	
By Express Not Prepaid			
500 Plants	1000 Plants		
	\$3.75	\$7.00	
3000 Plants or over	\$6.50 per 1000	By Ex.	
3000 Plants or over	\$7.00 per 1000	Parcel	
		Post Prepaid	

All varieties of Plants are scarce this year. Order your Plants early before we get sold out.

### PREMIER EXTRA EARLY

We have always believed Howard 17 and Premier to be the same variety. However some of our customers have purchased the plants under the name of Premier, and it has proven so valuable to them that they always buy their plants under the name of Premier. We purchased our Premier plants from a leading Michigan grower, and any of our customers may have the true Premier by ordering them under that name.

Prices same as Howard 17.

**Fairfax (Per.) Early.** Fairfax was introduced by the United States Department of Agriculture, from a cross of the Howard 17 and Royal Sovereign and given to the trade a few years ago. We fruited Fairfax in 1935 for the first time. The berries for the first two pickings were large to extra large, after that they run down in size, owing to there being too

many plants in the row. For best results plants should not be allowed to sett too many plants. A row with plants spaced from seven to eight inches apart would be just right. Fairfax berries are dark red when fully ripened. But if picked at the proper time the berries are bright red making a fine appearance both in the box and in the crate. Fairfax is of very fine quality, just the berry to grow for your own table, or to treat your friends. The plants are large and healthy. Berries are very firm making it a good shipping berry and they bring top prices in the market. A good berry for market or home use.

By Parcel Post Prepaid

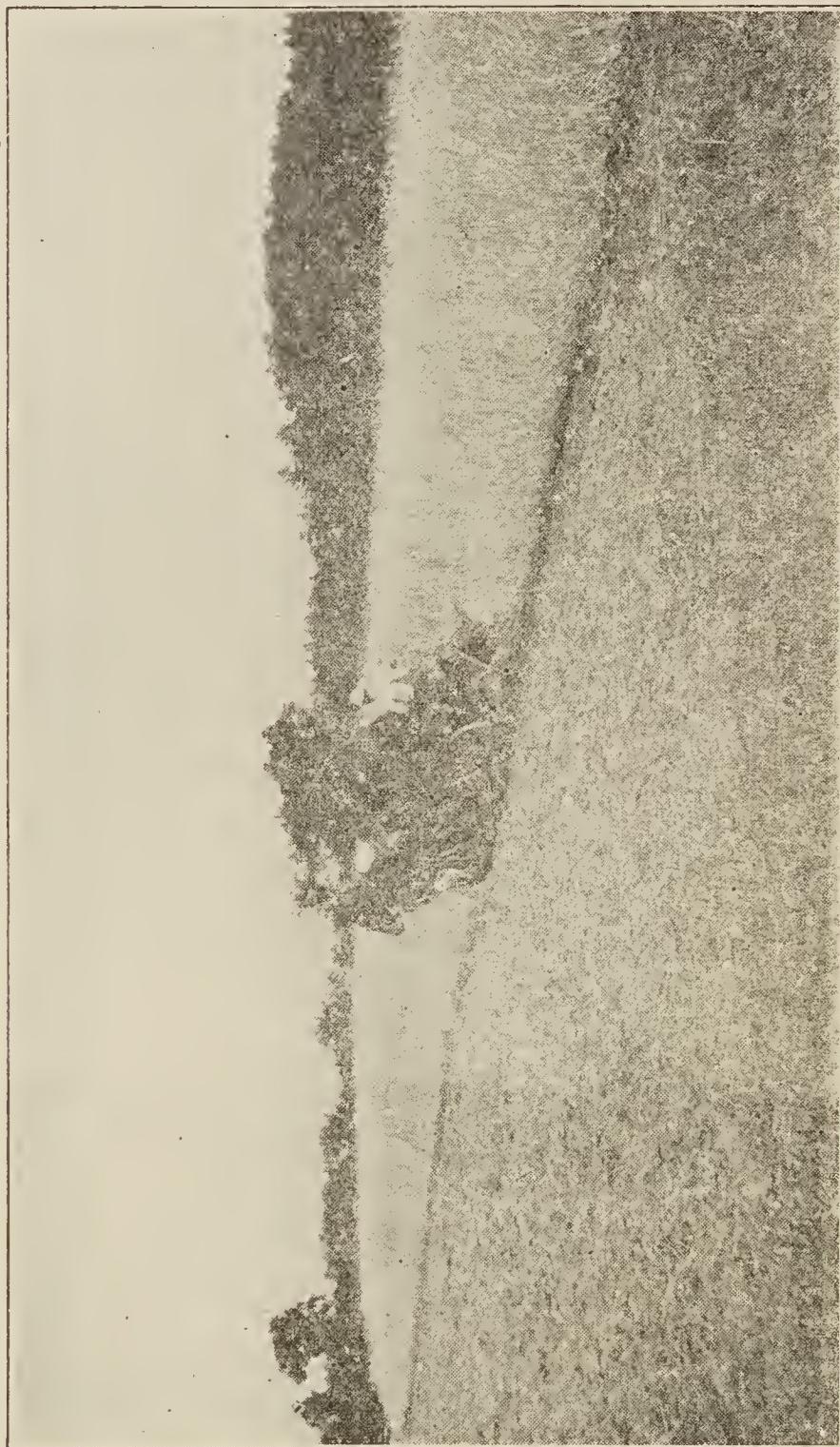
25 Plants	100 Plants	300 Plants	500 Plants
50c	\$1.50	\$3.50	\$5.00
500 Plants by Express \$4.75 Not Prepaid			

**Dorsett (Per.) Early.** We were a little disappointed with the Dorsett in 1935. The first picking was very good, after that the berries run small with quite a few nubbins. This was caused by too many plants in the row. On one end of the rows where they did not make as many plants they did very well. Those plants were not grown for fruit but for plants, that is why we allowed them to sett so many. The berries were of very good quality, and very firm, and of good color, more like Howard 17. Most markets like a light colored berry. Like the Fairfax the Dorsett brought the best prices in the market.

Growers all speak very highly of the Dorsett. I just described it as I find it here.

By Parcel Post Prepaid

25 Plants	100 Plants	300 Plants	500 Plants
50	\$1.50	\$3.50	\$5.00
500 Plants by Express \$4.75 Not Prepaid			



Plowing Under a Crop of Rye. Getting the Land in Shape  
for a Crop of Plants This Coming Season

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You will do us a favor by showing this catalogue  
to your friends.

**Catskill (Per.) Midseason.** The Catskill is a new variety from the New York Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y. A Midseason berry ripens about a week after Howard 17. Awarded a medal by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Boston for its large size and handsome appearance. A cross of Marshall and Howard 17. The plants are large, very vigorous and yield very heavy crops. The berries are very large, moderately firm, bright red in color, glossy and attractive, and good in quality. The Catskill, like the Fairfax and Dorsett, makes too many plants and should not be allowed to set too many, as we find the largest and finest berries are always where plants are fairly wide apart. The Catskill outyielded the Fairfax and the Dorsett and equalled the Howard 17 in our test plot last year. The Catskill to be at its best needs fairly heavy and rich land.

By Parcel Post Prepaid

25 Plants	100 Plants	300 Plants	500 Plants
50c	\$1.50	\$3.50	\$5.00

500 Plants by Express \$4.75 Not Prepaid

Hudson, Mass.  
Sept. 3, 1935.

Mr. George Rennie,  
Dear Sir:

I want to tell you about the 1,000 strawberry plants I bought from you. They were wonderful; the best plants I ever bought from anybody, and to think I only lost three plants out of the lot and I did not set them out until June. They did finely. Whenever I buy any more plants it will be from George Rennie.

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR A. TRUMPOLDT.

### REPORT ON OUR TEST PLOT

Last year we had a few rows each of Howard 17, Fairfax, Dorsett and Catskill, growing side by side. All on the same kind of land that we fruited as a test of the size, quality and productiveness of the four varieties. The Howard was the first to ripen being three days ahead of the Fairfax and Dorsett and a week ahead of the Catskill. All four varieties made too many plants for a good fruiting row. The Howard and the Catskill produced the most berries, being away ahead of the Fairfax and Dorsett and they kept good size until the last picking, especially the Catskill. The Fairfax was extra large the first two pickings then they run down somewhat in size. The Fairfax was the best of the lot for quality. The Dorsett was very good size the first picking, after that they run down in size with quite a few nubbins. This may have been caused by having to many plants in the row. The Dorsett had very good quality.

I would advise growers to stick to the Howard 17 for their main crop and try out the new varieties until you find out what they can do, before planting too many of them.

### LIST OF EVERBEARING STRAWBERRIES

**Champion Everbearing (Per.)** Champion is the best of the everbearing varieties for quality. It is similar to Progressive in plant growth, appearance and quality of the fruit. Have a limited stock of plants this year. When you order Champion give a second choice.

By Parcel Post Prepaid

25 Plants .....	50c	100 Plants .....	\$1.75
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### THE NEW MASTODON

Our new Mastodon gave us another big crop of berries last summer and fall, although the dry fall we had last year cut down the crop some. The berries were large and perfect shape and nice color. We set the plants in April, kept the blossoms picked off until July 1st. They started to fruit August 1st and picked until the last of October. If you have never grown Mastodon plant some this spring and be convinced that it is all we claim for it, 150 plants will supply a good sized family with all the berries they can use from August 1st until the last of October, with a second crop the following spring. Fruit growers and farmers that have a roadside stand should grow the Mastodon. I want to invite everyone interested in strawberries to come to my farm and see the Mastodon and Gem in fruit this fall. Come anytime after August 10th until the last of October. "All Are Welcome."

By Parcel Post Prepaid

25 Plants	100 Plants	500 Plants
50c	\$1.75	\$6.50

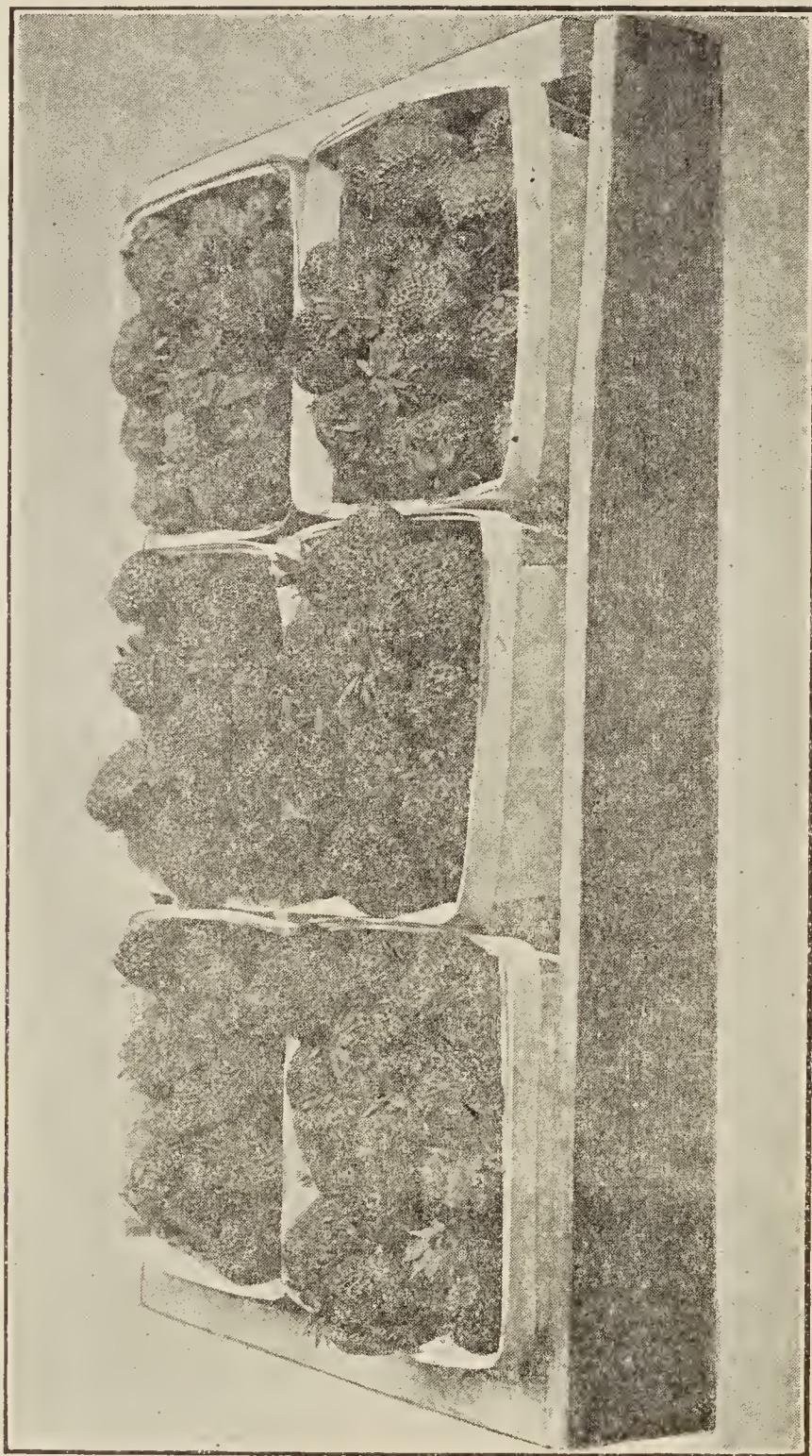
By Express Not Prepaid—500, \$6.00; 1000, \$12.00

### GEM

This new Everbearing berry makes a vigorous plant growth of medium sized plants. The berries average large in size, are light in color, showy and attractive and very firm. The quality is very good. They stand a wet spell better than the Mastodon as the berries dry off better. Set plants 18 inches apart

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Order your plants early. A small remittance is all that is required with your order. Send balance when you want plants shipped.



A Tray of Everbearing Berries

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I Pay Parcel Post Charges—You Pay Express  
Charges

in the row and let plants make eight to ten runner plants each. A good berry for home use or market. Better try a few of the Gem this spring.

By Parcel Post Prepaid

25 Plants	100 Plants	500 Plants
50c	\$1.75	\$6.50

By Express Not Prepaid

500 Plants .....	\$6.00	1000 Plants .....	\$12.00
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We use square pint baskets for marketing our Everbearing berries. We find they sell better than in quart baskets.

**We Are Headquarters For Everbearing Strawberries**

Since the Everbearing strawberries came on the market, they have mostly been grown under the Hill system. For some time we have tested them under the Hill system, the narrow row and the matted row, and we find that the narrow row gives more berries and larger berries than when grown in hills or matted rows. Make rows 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart, plant every 18 inches in the row, and let plants make 6 to 8 runners each. This gives enough shade for the berries and also allows the berries to dry out after heavy rains. In the matted row too many berries go bad as they don't dry off after heavy rains. For best results set plants early in the Spring and keep all blossoms picked off until July 4th.

**How to Reach Our Farm by Automobile**

Come to Andover Square, then down Central Street and go under the railroad bridge, keep to the left, then first right. Our farm is seventh house on the right.

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**Get Your Order in Early**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Official Certificate No. 49

Boston, July 8, 1935.

**To whom it may concern:**

This is to certify that I have this fifth day of July completed the inspection of the strawberry stock of George Rennie grown at Andover, State of Massachusetts, and find it to be apparently free from all injurious insects and diseases which might be transferred on nursery stock from the nursery to the orchard or garden.

This certificate good until July 1, 1936.

Inspected by B. I. Gerry      (Signed) R. H. Allen, Director.

### **RASPBERRIES**

Raspberries should be planted two to three feet apart in the row and rows six feet apart. Once planted and kept cultivated and fertilized, they will be good for a number of years.

**Latham.** The Latham is to the raspberry what the Howard 17 is to the strawberry. Hardy, vigorous grower, productive, large size and long fruiting season. A raspberry that is making a name wherever it is grown throughout New England. It is free from Mosaic and other raspberry diseases. It is known for its hardiness, and producing an abundance of the highest quality fruit. All the agricultural colleges speak very highly of it. There is always a good market for raspberries and at good prices.

We will also have plants for Fall delivery after October 1st.

Fall is the best time to set out raspberry plants.

12 Plants.....	75c
25 Plants .....	\$1.25
By Parcel Post Prepaid	

**GLADIOLUS**  
**Exhibition Mixture**

To secure the greatest variety and beauty from gladioli they should be grown in mixture. Our exhibition mixture consists of a high grade assortment made up of the best named varieties that cannot fail to please the most exacting. Wide range of colors.

50c per dozen; 25, \$1.00; 50, \$1.50; 100, \$2.50

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Every one of our strawberry beds is grown for plants and not fruit. Some growers grow for fruit and dig and sell the outside edges of the rows for plants, the centers being saved for fruiting purposes. By this method the customer receives only the end runner plants, and naturally the smallest and most poorly rooted. Such plants are dear at any price. I would rather pay \$10.00 per 1000 for good plants than take those small plants as a gift. With our method of digging and trimming plants, these small plants are discarded, your orders being filled with strong, fully developed young plants that will make a quick, sturdy growth in your fields this year.

Woonsocket, R. I.

Mr. George Rennie,  
Dear Sir:

Please send me 100 Howard and 100 Catskill when it is time to plant in this locality. I have sent quite a few of my neighbors to you for plants and we have all been satisfied with them.

Yours truly,  
ALBERT A. BOUDREAU.

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**A Satisfied Customer is Our Best Advertisement**  
**Get Your Order in Early**

Medway, Mass.

Mr. Rennie,

Dear Sir:

I want 200 more Howard 17 plants. I received the other lot of plants O. K. and they are the best plants I ever bought.

Yours truly,  
E. N. TOWNE.

Andover, N. H.,  
June 6th, 1935.

Mr. George Rennie,

Dear Sir:

We just want to let you know that the strawberry plants we received from you two weeks ago are the finest we have ever seen and were much superior to some received from another nursery which cost more. They are planted and doing finely. Thank you very much.

Yours truly,  
MRS. JAMES B. WATSON.

Alfred, Maine.

Mr. George Rennie,

Dear Sir:

The plants I received from you May 2nd were the best plants I ever saw. They are growing fine. Another year I shall buy all my plants from you.

Yours truly,  
S. A. CHADBOURNE.

Oakland, Me.,  
April 5th, 1935.

Mr. Geo. Rennie,

Dear Sir:

Please find inclosed money order for 1200 Howard 17 strawberry plants. We had 500 of the same kind last year and were very much pleased with them. Although it was a very dry year we lost only a few. I remain

Yours truly,  
CHARLES W. BOOKER.

**PLEASE USE THIS ORDER SHEET**

**GEORGE RENNIE**  
**STRAWBERRY SPECIALIST**                           **ANDOVER, MASS.**

**Please forward to**      **Date of Order**.....

**Name** .....

**Post Office** ..... **R. D. No.** .....

**Express Office** ..... **P. O. Box** .....

**County** ..... **Street** .....

**State** ..... **Ship by**.....  
(Mail or Express)

**Ship plants on or about** .....

Please write name and address plainly, and fill all blanks perfectly. Always state how goods shall be sent, attach price to each article and add up accurately.

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Variety of Stock Ordered</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	
		<b>Dollars</b>	<b>Cents</b>
	<b>Howard 17</b>		
	<b>Premier</b>		
	<b>Fairfax</b>		
	<b>Dorsett</b>		
	<b>Catskill</b>		
	<b>Mastodon Everbearing</b>		
	<b>Gem Everbearing</b>		
	<b>Champion Everbearing</b>		
	<b>Latham Raspberries</b>		
	<b>Gladioli</b>		

**True to Name.** While I use every precaution to have all plants, etc., true to name, (I believe I come as near doing this as anyone in the business), I will not be responsible for any sum greater than the cost of stock should any prove otherwise than as represented.

Please write below the names and addresses of any acquaintances and friends who might be interested in, or buyers of, strawberry plants, and I will send them a catalogue.

North Berwick, Me.,  
June 5, 1935.

Mr. Rennie,  
Dear Sir:

Please find money order for 500 Howard 17 strawberry plants. I will say that the strawberry plants I purchased from you a year ago, every one lived and they are just loaded with blossoms now.

Yours truly,  
JOSEPH G. GOODWIN.

**I Pay Parcel Post Charges—You Pay Express  
Charges**



**Special Prize Awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture for My Exhibit of Everbearing Strawberries**

**Be Your Order Large or Small, We Will Treat You  
“On the Square”**

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**Terms**—Cash must accompany all orders. No plants shipped C. O. D.

**How to Remit**—Post Office, Express Money Order, Registered Letter or Bank Draft.

**Claims**—Must be made on receipt of plants, so that mistakes (should any have been made), may be promptly corrected.

All plants are fresh dug when wanted, kept away from both sun and wind, taken to the packing room to be **trimmed** ready for planting; tied in bunches of 26, labeled and set in moss in light boxes or crates, and delivered to the post office or express office at Andover, Mass.

I take the greatest care to have all plants true to name and in case any should prove otherwise I will not be liable for any amount greater than paid me for the plants.

Orders should be sent as soon as possible and your order will be booked and shipped when wanted.

A card will be sent notifying you when plants are shipped by express, so you can be on the lookout for them.

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**GEORGE RENNIE, Andover, Mass.**

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**Get Your Order in Early**